

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, June 19, 2003, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman  
Thomas J. Schneider, Vice Chairman  
Matt Brainard, Commissioner, via telephone  
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner  
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator  
Utility Division

(232) In the matter of Qwest Communications – Docket No. N2003.6.69; On June 3, 2003, Qwest filed tariff Transmittal 03-13, ISDN Single line promotion. Customers subscribing to a one, two, three or five-year rate stability agreement will receive one month free service and nonrecurring charges will be waived. This promotion is only available where it is technically feasible to provide service and is schedule to run from July 1, 2003, through September 26, 2003. Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the ISDN Single line promotion. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioners Stovall, Jergeson and Brainard voted aye. Commissioners Rowe and Schneider dissented.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator  
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(233) In the matter of TN2187; Charles R. Irvin, Shelby, Montana requests permission to continue the lease of PSC No. 1086 to Dick Irvin, Inc., Shelby, Montana for a twelve month period, May 25, 2003 to May 25, 2004.

Class C - Property in Oilmont, Montana, and to or from points tributary thereto, but not exceeding fifty (50) miles in any direction from said city. Limitations: The transportation of property between points served by rail carriers, or between points served by a motor carrier operating between fixed termini or over a regular route, is prohibited. Transportation of ashes, waste, refuse, rubbish and garbage is prohibited.

Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve the continuation of the lease. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(234) In the matter of approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Schneider moved to approve the minutes for the week of June 9, 2003. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney

(235) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Implementation of House Bills 641 and 580, N2003.6.82. Commissioner Stovall moved to issue a request for rule proposals & comments and notice of informal roundtable . Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Lee

(236) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of number pooling ; Commissioner Schneider moved to assume responsibility for reclamation administration and designate Mike Morris. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck

(237) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Biweekly reports from NorthWestern Energy on acquiring storage refill gas as well as actual storage levels and forecasts; Commissioner Schneider moved to request that NorthWestern Energy file a strategic plan for how it intends to purchase storage gas and ensure that storage is refilled prior to the next heating season. The plan must address the price objectives, volumes and schedules which will accomplish the objective. The plan must be attested to by the officer in the Company. The plan must be filed no later than July 7, 2003. Also, NorthWestern Energy is directed to file bi-weekly attested reports which detail the volumes of gas purchased for storage, the price of all purchases, the total accumulated gas in storage and a forecast of when the refill of storage gas for the next heating season will be completed. The first by weekly report must be filed no later than July 7th Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Dave Burchett and Robin McHugh

(238) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Northwestern Electric Tracker, D2002.11.140; Commissioner Brainard moved to address issue of prudence use and reserve issue procedure order concerning prudence. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which failed 2-3. Commissioners Brainard and Stovall voted aye. Commissioners Rowe, Jergeson and Schneider dissented.

Commissioner Brainard move to make a substitute motion to approve the 5<sup>th</sup> draft order and to find Northwestern partially imprudent. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed 3-2. Commissioners Rowe, Schneider and Brainard voted aye. Commissioners Jergeson and Stovall dissented.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Dave Burchett and Robin McHugh

(239) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Northwestern Electric Tracker, D2003.6.66; Commissioner Stovall moved to grant a Protective Order. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion which passed 4-1. Commissioners Stovall, Schneider, Brainard and Jergeson voted aye. Commissioner

Rowe dissented.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Will Rosquist and Eric Eck

(240) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Northwestern Electric Tracker, D2003.6.77; Commissioner Schneider moved to grant an interim protective order. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed 4-0 Commissioner Brainard did not leave a vote.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Will Rosquist and Eric Eck

(241) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Northwestern Electric Tracker, D2003.6.77; Commissioner Schneider moved to issue a notice of appreciation and deadline for intervention by July 15, 2003. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-0. Commissioner Brainard did not leave a vote.

(242) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Northwestern Electric Tracker, D2003.6.77; Commissioner Rowe moved to issue a notice of interim and opportunity to comment, requesting MCC comment, with comments due by July 1, 2003. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion with passed with a vote of 3-1. Commissioner Stovall, Rowe and Jergeson voted aye. Commissioner Schneider dissented. Commissioner Brainard did not leave a vote.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

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BOB ROWE, Chairman

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THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

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MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

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GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

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JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Ann Purcell  
Commission Secretary

Minutes.....June 19, 2003

1:30 p.m.

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(SEAL)